Interest Rates and Other Related Issues under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y.V. Reddy, the then Dy. Governor, RBI, in 2001 *inter alia,* had recommended that the interest rates on small savings schemes be benchmarked to the average yields on Government securities of comparable maturity in the secondary market. Government accepted this recommendations and revised the interest rates on these schemes with effect from 1.3.2002 and 1.3.2003. The rates have remained unchanged since 1.3.2003. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to revise the rates upwards as on date.

Outstanding Loan of Account Holders

2938. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 13000 borrowal accounts with more than Rs. 1 crore outstanding loan;

(b) if so, the name of such account holders with the amount due, time of issuing the loan and the issuing branch;

(c) why no action has been taken to recover these loans; and

(d) who are responsible for its recovery and whether action should be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst the banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing the financial institutions as also the provisions of the Public Financial Institutions (obligations as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information relating to individuals details of account holders cannot be divulged. However, Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited is maintaining a database on suit-filed accounts of Rs. 1 Crore and above and non suit-filed accounts (wilful defaulters) of Rs. 25 Lacs and above. The information can be accessed at CIBIL. website www.cibil.com.

(c) and (d) The banks take appropriate action to recover outstanding loans in accordance with their overall recovery policies, which, *inter-alia,* include regular follow up of loan accounts, filing of suits in civil courts/ DRTs, issue of notices under SARFAESI Act, 2002, compromise settlement

and monitoring and follow up of NPAs at various levels. The public sector banks have been advised to take effective measures of expeditious recovery of dues from the borrowers, including in NPA accounts. Recovery of loans and NPAs is monitored by banks scrupulosuly at various levels and action is taken for negligence or dereliction of duties, wherever considered appropriate.

Pending cases of disbursals under Duty Drawback Scheme

2939. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of disbursals pending before the customs officials to be paid to the exporters under Duty Drawback Scheme and the period since this has been withheld by the Customs Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that inspite of assurance given by CBEC in the meeting held with the exporters, the amount has not been released, and

(c) if so, how the Ministry propose to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a)to(c) In all, 35602 All Industry Duty Drawback claims involving an amount of Rs. 225.56 crores are pending before the various Customs formations as on 30.11.2005. Out of these, 18852 claims are less than one month old, 8456 claims are 1-3 months old, 1940 claims are 3-6 months old and 6354 claims are more than 6 months old. The claims are pending because of non-receipt of the required documents, non-receipt of test reports, exporters name figuring in the alerts issued by various agencies, non-compliance of requirements like furnishing CENVAT non-availment certificate, etc. The delay in fixation of brand rates of duty drawback is due to non-submission of required documents, pending investigations relating to exports by various agencies etc.

2. The Ministry is monitoring the pendency of drawback claims. Concerted efforts are being made to liquidate the pendency as detailed below:

(a) Instructions have been issued to the Commissioners to ensure that drawback amount is credited into the accounts of exporters immediately after 'Let Export' order and filing of the manifest by